GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5497
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2005
FUNCTIONING OF NATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Animal Welfare Board provides financial assistance to veterinary hospitals for treatment of animals and certain Non-Governmental Organisations under anti-rabies programme;

(b) if so, the details of the financial assistance provided thereof during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by Government to bring improvement in the functioning of the said board?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) No financial assistance is provided by Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) to the Government Veterinary Hospitals for treatment of animals. The anti-rabies programme is part of the scheme for Birth Control and Immunization of Stray Dogs under which financial assistance is provided by the AWBI to the Non-Governmental Organizations and Municipal Corporations; and
(b) The State-wise details of financial assistance provided for Birth Control and Immunization of Stray Dogs by AWBI during the last three years is as under:

Amount in Rupees

Name of the State	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Andhra Pradesh	#	#	17,08,000.00
Delhi	#	#	28,97,500.00
Goa	#	#	12,40,780.00
Gujarat	#	#	1,70,000.00
Maharashtra	#	#	20,28,000.00
Orissa	#	#	2,22,500.00
Rajasthan	#	#	4,29,445.00
Tamil Nadu	#	#	38,85,000.00
Uttar Pradesh	#	#	34,000.00
West Bengal	#	#	11,60,750.00
Total	#	#	1,37,75,975.00

The scheme was transferred to AWBI during 2004-2005.

(c) Steps taken by the Government from time to time to improve the functioning of the Animal Welfare Board of India inter-alia include:

- Transfer of implementation of animal welfare schemes to AWBI.
- Enhancement of their budget provision
- Directions to AWBI to follow economic norms in spending the funds.
- Approval by the Government of proposals for release of grant-in-aid to the Non-Governmental Organizations which are also the Members of the Board.
- Enlargement of the panel of inspecting agencies.
- Association of Animal Husbandry Departments of the States with AWBI to monitor utilization of funds.
- Formation of Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) and State Animal Welfare Boards (SAWBs) to assist AWBI in implementation of Acts and Rules relating to Animal Welfare.

Close tie-up by AWBI with Gaushalas and Pinjarapoles to ensure treatment of animals.